

Message Text

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SUBJ: PLO VISIT -- SECURITY PROTECTION BY NEW YORK CITY
POLICE

REF: USUN 5142

1. FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF NEW YORK CITY'S STATEMENT
ISSUED NOVEMBER 16:

MAYOR ABRAHAM D. BEAM ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE CITY
OF NEW YORK EXPENDED APPROXIMATELY THREE-QUARTERS OF A MILLION
DOLLARS IN FOUR DAYS TO PROVIDE POLICE PROTECTION FOR YASSIR
ARAFAT AND THE MEMBERS OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION
DURING THEIR VISIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS THIS WEEK.

"THIS MASSIVE EXPENDITURE OF NEW YORK CITY'S MONEY
AND POLICE RESOURCES DRAMATICALLY POINTS UP THE NEED FOR THE
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO HEED THE REPEATED REQUESTS OF THIS CITY
FOR REIMBURSEMENT FOR PROVIDING POLICE PROTECTION TO THE UNITED
NATIONS MEMBERS AND THE CONSULAR CORPS." THE MAYOR SAID.

MAYOR BEAME SAID HE PLANS TO COMMUNICATE WITH
PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER THIS WEEK TO
ASK THEM FOR A \$3.1 MILLION APPROPRIATION TO PARTIALLY MEET THE
CITY'S POLICE SERVICE TO THE UN AND CONSULAR CORPS MEMBERS
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DURING THE 1974-74 FISCAL YEAR.

"FOR SEVERAL YEARS," THE MAYOR SAID, "I HAVE BEEN PRESSING FOR AN EQUITABLE ARRANGEMENT WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO REIMBURSE THIS CITY FOR POLICE PROTECTION ON MATTERS RELATING TO OUR ROLE AS HOST TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

"SINCE BECOMING MAYOR, I HAVE SPECIFICALLY BROUGHT THIS MATTER TO THE ATTENTION OF THE WHITE HOUSE AND HAVE DISCUSSED IT WITH MEMBERS OF THE WHITE HOUSE-CITY HALL LIAISON COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED BY THE PRESIDENT MORE THAN SIX MONTHS AGO. WHILE WE HAVE HEARD SYMPATHETIC RESPONSES, WE HAVE RECEIVED NO ACTION ON THIS MATTER -- AND CERTAINLY NO MONEY."

MAYOR BEAME POINTED OUT THAT THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN OUTSTANDING IN PROVIDING SECURITY FOR FOREIGN OFFICIALS DURING THE PAST DECADE.

"THE FATE OF WORLD PEACE OFTEN DEPENDS UPON OUR ABILITY TO PROVIDE SECURE AND EFFICIENT POLICE PROTECTION TO WORLD FIGURES INVOLVED IN SERIOUS CONTROVERSIES," THE MAYOR SAID. "THE NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT DESERVES THE COMMENDATION OF THE ENTIRE WORLD IN CARRYING OUT ITS SECURITY MISSION SO SKILLFULLY AND EFFECTIVELY DURING THE RECENT ARAFAT VISIT.

"MOST OF THE PEOPLE IN THIS CITY WERE OUTRAGED BY THE UN DECISION TO BRING THE PLO TO ITS SHORES. NEVERTHELESS, WE RECOGNIZED OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO OURSELVES AND TO THE WORLD TO MAINTAIN ORDER AND CALM.

"NOT A DROP OF BLOOD WAS SHED IN THIS CITY BECAUSE OF THE ARAFAT VISIT," HE SAID. "THAT'S A REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT WHICH OUGHT TO SERVE AS A MODEL FOR OUR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO FOLLOW."

THE MAYOR POINTED OUT THAT THE MATTER OF POLICE PROTECTION CALLS FOR "IMMEDIATE ATTENTION IN WASHINGTON BECAUSE OF OUR EXTREMELY TIGHT BUDGET SITUATION IN NEW YORK."

OUT-OF-POCKET POLICE EXPENSES FOR PERSONNEL DURING THE ARAFAT VISIT TOTALLED \$696,592. IN ADDITION, THERE WERE UNCLASSIFIED

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COSTS FOR FUEL, HELICOPTER AND POLICE LAUNCH ACTIVITIES, TRANSPORTATION COSTS, AND OTHER ALLIED EXPENDITURES.

THE MAYOR ALSO POINTED OUT THAT POLICE COSTS DURING THE UN'S 15TH ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY AND LATER THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION--AT WHICH SOME 70 HEADS OF STATE WERE PRESENT--COST THE CITY'S TAXPAYERS AN ESTIMATED \$5.6 MILLION. IN ALL, THE CITY HAS EXPENDED SOME \$35 MILLION FOR POLICE PERSONNEL

COSTS ALONE SINCE THE UN WAS ESTABLISHED HERE.
MAYOR BEAME POINTED OUT THAT THE CITY, BECAUSE OF
INTERNATIONAL TREATY REQUIREMENTS, ALSO RELINQUISHES SOME \$7
MILLION IN TAXES ANNUALLY FOR FOREIGN EMBASSY PROPERTIES. "WE
ARE PROUD TO PROVIDE THE HOME FOR THE UNITED NATIONS AND FOR A
HUGE NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMATES AND CONSULAR OFFICIALS,"
HE SAID. "AND THE CITY IS WILLING TO SHOULDER PART OF THE
FINANCIAL BURDEN. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE IN ALL EQUITY THAT THE
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD ASSUME ITS BURDEN. IT IS NOT FAIR
TO ASK THE TAXPAYERS OF ONE CITY ALONE TO PAY FOR THAT WHICH
AFFECTS ALL THE PEOPLE OF OUR COUNTRY AND ALL THE PEOPLE OF
OUR WORLD".

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2. ALSO, FYI: FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT BY

MAYOR BEAME NOVEMBER 12:

QUOTE

THE CURRENT VISIT OF THE PLO DELEGATION TO PARTICIPATE IN
THE UNITED NATIONS MIDEAST DEBATE PUTS TO THE TEST OUR
REPUTATION AS THE CAPITAL CITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.
ALL NEW YORKERS JOIN ME, IT KNOW, IN CONDEMNING
THE TERRORIST ACTIONS COMMITTED BY THE PLO AND ITS ALLIED
GROUPS. HOWEVER, VIOLENCE OR THREATS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST
MEMBERS OF THE PALESTINEAN DELEGATION WOULD ONLY CONTINUE
TO CYCLE OF TERRORISM, AND WOULD BRING THE MIDDLE EAST
NO CLOSER TO PEACE.

THIS IS A TIME FOR ALL PEOPLE TO WATCH CLOSELY
THE NEWS FROM THE UNITED NATIONS, AND TO PRAY FOR A
PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE MIDEAST CONFLICT. MORE ESPECIALLY,
THIS IS A TIME FOR ALL NEW YORKERS TO DEMONSTRATE TO THE
WORLD THAT EVEN THIS ISSUE, WHICH MOVES US SO DEEPLY, CANNOT
PROVOKE IRRESPONSIBLE ACTIONS IN OUR CITY.

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